

a barrier element positioned at said releasable seal and providing an electrically conductive path between the first electrode and the connector without exposing the first electrode to the external environment,

wherein said barrier element comprises a layer of material formed around a wire lead of said first electrode, the wire lead providing the electrically conductive path between said first electrode and the connector.

18. (Amended) An electrode package in which one or more adhesively-applied skin electrodes may be sealed, said electrode package comprising:

a first adhesively-applied skin electrode,

a compartment containing said first electrode,

a releasable seal adapted to seal said compartment and maintain said first electrode in a sealed mode in which said first electrode is not exposed to an external environment,

a connector of said first electrode, the connector comprising at least one terminal adapted to make and break an electrical connection, and the connector being exposed to the external environment, and

a barrier element positioned at said releasable seal and providing an electrically conductive path between said first electrode and said connector of said first electrode without exposing the first electrode to the external environment,

wherein said barrier element comprises a layer of material formed around a wire lead of said first electrode, the wire lead providing the electrically conductive path between said first electrode and the connector,

wherein the layer of material includes an arcuate upper portion and an arcuate lower portion, said barrier element being formed by heat sealing a first wall of the compartment to the arcuate upper portion, heat sealing a second wall of the compartment to the arcuate lower portion, and heat sealing the first and second walls to each other.

23. (Third Amendment) An electrode package in which one or more adhesively-applied skin electrodes may be sealed, the electrode package comprising:

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an adhesively-applied skin electrode,
a wire lead extending from the electrode,
a compartment containing the electrode and wire lead and maintaining the
electrode and wire lead in isolation from an external environment, and
a connector electrically connected to the electrode, the connector comprising at
least one terminal and a connector body supporting the terminal,
the connector body comprising
a first end exposed to an interior of the compartment and in isolation from
the external environment and
a second end isolated from the interior of the compartment when the
compartment maintains the electrode in isolation from the external environment,
the terminal being nonunitary with the wire lead, and comprising
a first terminal end connected to the wire lead and
a second terminal end located at the second end of the connector body,
the connector providing an electrically conductive path to the electrode from the
second terminal end outside the compartment when the compartment maintains the
electrode in isolation from the external environment.

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27. (Amended) The electrode package of claim 23, wherein the connector further
comprises a second terminal with an end extending from the second end of the connector
body, wherein an electrically conductive path is provided between the second electrode
and the end of the second terminal when the compartment maintains the electrodes in
isolation from the external environment.

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42. (Amended) The electrode package of claim 23 wherein the connector body
includes strain relief elements for relieving strain on the wire lead.

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50. (Amended) The electrode package of claim 14 in combination with a
defibrillator, wherein the first adhesively-applied skin electrode comprises a defibrillation
electrode and the connector and defibrillator are connected to provide an electrically

conductive path between the defibrillator and the electrode while the releasable seal maintains the electrode in the sealed mode in isolation from the external environment.

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51. (Amended) The electrode package of claim 18 in combination with a defibrillator, wherein the first adhesively-applied skin electrode comprises a defibrillation electrode and the connector and defibrillator are connected to provide an electrically conductive path between the defibrillator and the electrode while the releasable seal maintains the electrode in the sealed mode in isolation from the external environment. --
